



Stephen Hoffman

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 4:32 PM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRRC; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov; timothy.collins@pasenate.com; gking@pahousegop.com; siversen@pahouse.net
Cc: c-jflanagan@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559)

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The enclosed comment was received as part of the following testimony:

Testimony name: Public Hearing 5 (1pm) - #7-559
Testimony date: 12/10/2020 12:00:00 AM
Testimony location: WebEx

Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: CO2 Budget Trading Program (#7-559).

Commenter Information:

Richard Sorek
 (richard.sorek@zoominternet.net)
 753 Woodland Road
 Bradford, PA 15015 US

Comments entered:

My name is Richard Sorek. S O R E K I live in Bradford Woods PA north of Pittsburgh.

I speak as a private citizen

I thank the EQB for this opportunity to express my support for Pennsylvania to join the nation's most successful program to fight climate change, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

I'm encouraged Pennsylvania - the Keystone State - can positively influence the greater good, in collaboration with our neighbor states to effectively address undeniable climate challenges that confront us as a nation, and a the planet

Pennsylvania residents have endured a sad legacy of being penalized with harmful air quality for the simple choice where they grew up.

It's been 72 years since Donora thermal inversion proved the tragedy of uncontrolled industrial air pollution

Thousands were sickened and 20 Pennsylvania citizens died because the air quality could not support breathing the most basic fundamental human process,

A sign in the Donora Smog museum that read "Clean Air Started Here" was later re-worded with "The attempt at Clean Air Started Here"

Seventy years later the attempt at clean air is still in progress,

We have no choice. We must continue striving working & attempting and whenever there is an opportunity .

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is a rare opportunity to have a positive impact on air quality in Pennsylvania. For having endured Donora, Centralia, mining explosions acid drainage and subsidence, Pennsylvanians deserve the chance to experience the cleaner air benefits RGGI has the potential to deliver..

Not only do we Pennsylvanians deserve clean air -

Pennsylvania citizens are constitutionally entitled to clean air and water. We are entitled to Clean Air and Water under Article 1 Section 27 of our PA constitution guarantees that:

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. ... As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative provides a rare positive opportunity to do something good for us the citizens of Pennsylvania.

We must seize this opportunity to make air better for Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh, was ranked the seventh worst in air quality in the nation by the American Lung Association in 2019.

Today we have a chance to do something positive for benefit of the present and the future Pennsylvanians.

Neighboring states have already adopted RGGI. Neighboring states are already yielding tangible measurable benefits from participating. If there is positive momentum we have to join it.

72 years after Donora it's crucial that we take aggressive steps today to reduce emissions here in Pennsylvania if we're going to have a chance to prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

Joining this successful bipartisan program puts us on the right path.

I will be proud of Pennsylvania for joining our Northeastern neighbors who already yielding tangible benefits of implementing RGGI

Among RGGI many benefits are jobs creation. Jobs to locate clean up uncapped wells abandoned by drillers, to remediate environmental dereliction of the past which have despoiled many precious streams and forests of Pennsylvania.

It's time to cease the propagation of that lame, tired lie that (lobbyists plant in weak willed legislators brains that)

jobs and clean air and water are somehow mutually exclusive,

RGGI models demonstrates that Pennsylvanians can have both jobs and cleaner air.

we do not have to choose one or the other. Pennsylvanians have a chance at a healthier future

I pray for the prescience of EQB Board members to adopt RGGI as a permanent regulation, I pray for the wisdom and integrity of EQB Board Members to do everything in your power to facilitate a healthier future for Pennsylvania.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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